

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|---|-----------------|--|
| Applicant:  | GILL  | Examiner:       | Unassigned                             |
| Serial No.: | Unassigned  | Group Art Unit: | Unassigned                             |
| Filed:      | March 29, 2004  | Docket No.:     | <b>HSJ920030223US1</b><br>(HITG.069PA) |
| Title:      | METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING THE THICKNESS OF A<br>SENSOR STACK IN A CURRENT-PERPENDICULAR-TO-PLANE<br>GMR/TUNNEL VALVE SENSOR |                 |  |

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Express Mail' mailing label number: EV 418821740 US

Date of Deposit: March 29, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: 

Name: Kathleen McDevitt

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted either within three months of the filing date or before the first Office Action of the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), and the 05 August 2003 Official Gazette Notice, only a copy of each foreign document or non-U.S. patent/application listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

Please note that any notations or markings on the attached documents do not reflect particular relevance, or lack thereof, to the present application, nor were they necessarily made by anyone affiliated with the prosecution of the present application.

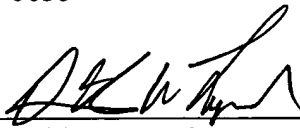
No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Crawford Maunu PLLC  
1270 Northland Drive  
Suite 390  
St. Paul, MN 55120  
651/686-6633

Date: March 29, 2004

By:   
David W. Lynch  
Reg. No. 36,204

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| <b>FORM 1449*</b><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b><br><br><b>IN AN APPLICATION</b><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) | Docket Number:<br>HSJ920030223US1 | Application Number:<br>Unassigned |
|   | Applicant: GILL                   |                                   |
|   | Filing Date: 03/29/2004           | Group Art Unit: Unassigned        |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO.      | DATE       | NAME      | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                     | US 2001/004798 A1 | 06/28/2001 | GILL      |       |          |                               |
|                     | US 2003/0086217   | 05/08/2003 | PINARBASI |       |          |                               |
|                     | 6,219,208         | 04/17/2001 | GILL      |       |          |                               |
|                     | 6,295,187         | 09/25/2001 | PINARBASI |       |          |                               |
|                     | 6,317,298         | 11/13/2001 | GILL      |       |          |                               |
|                     |                   |            |           |       |          |                               |
|                     |                   |            |           |       |          |                               |
|                     |                   |            |           |       |          |                               |
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|                     |                   |            |           |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|--|--------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |              |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  |              |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |              |      |         |       |          |             |    |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|---|-----------------|
| EXAMINER  | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant. |                 |